**UNOFFICIAL MINUTES OF WALHALLA CITY COUNCIL**

**MEETING MONDAY FEBRUARY 3, 2025**

Mayor McDonald called the regular meeting of the Walhalla City Council to order at 7:01 P.M., Monday February 3, 2025 at City Hall.

Council Present: Schill, Dumas, Carpenter, Horgan, Kalis, Jackson

Others Present: Rebecca Davis, Dean Jackson, Jeff Amoth, Pauline Amoth, Christopher Trupe, Justin Dearinger, Joel Mostad, Mr. Larry DuBois, Auditor Cook

Motion by Carpenter to approve the minutes from the January regular meeting as read. Second by Horgan. Ayes, all. Motion passed. Motion by Carpenter to approve the minutes from the Municipal Services Committee meeting as read. Second by Dumas. Ayes, all. Motion passed. Motion by Jackson to approve the minutes from the Special meeting as read. Second by Dumas. Ayes, all. Motion passed.

Joel Mostad addressed the council regarding not receiving snow removal service in his alley. Mr. Mostad also voiced concern regarding the city landfill being closed on Saturdays.

Motion by Schill to approve the financial report. Second by Kalis. Ayes, all. Motion passed.

**Communications:** Dollar General had contacted the auditor regarding a lock for their dumpster. This issue had been discussed and resolved at the Municipal Services meeting.

Nodak Electric Co-op requested an easement from the city to install new underground service lines following the edge of the township right-of-way near the airport. Motion by Jackson to sign and approve this easement. Second by Carpenter. Ayes, all. Motion passed.

The city was presented with a franchise renewal agreement from United Telephone Mutual Aid. Motion by Carpenter to renew the franchise agreement with UTMA. Second by Jackson. Ayes, all. Motion passed.

Walhalla Cemetery Board financial discussion was held. Contact will be made with members of the newly formed board for a discussion on either returning the cemetery funds to the board or to continue having the city manage these funds.

The NDDEQ had contacted the city with the option to renew or terminate the permit regarding the Pembina Riverbank Stabilization Project. Motion by Schill to renew this permit. Second by Horgan. Ayes, all. Motion passed.

**Committee Reports:**

**Municipal Services, Building Permits, Streets, and Alleys:**  Discussion was held on overtime and comp time payout for Christopher Trupe. Mayor McDonald voiced concern over comp time payout and stated comp time should not be paid out to a salary worker. Motion by Carpenter to payout the 19 hours of overtime that Mr. Trupe has accumulated due to major snow events. Second by Jackson. Roll Call: Carpenter, yes; Horgan, yes; Schill, yes; Kalis, yes; Dumas, yes; Jackson, yes. Motion Passed. Motion by Carpenter to payout the 13 hours of comp time Mr. Trupe has accumulated while being the only city works employee at his regular pay rate. Second by Dumas. Roll Call: Carpenter, yes; Horgan, yes; Schill, yes; Kalis, yes; Dumas, yes; Jackson, yes. Motion Passed. Moving forward Mr. Trupe will relegate his time to a 40-hour work week and will contact the municipal services committee regarding events considered an emergency that would dictate over time hours.

Motion by Carpenter to install a floor drain in the city shop. Second by Horgan. Roll Call: Carpenter, yes; Horgan, yes; Schill, yes; Kalis, yes; Dumas, yes; Jackson, yes. Motion Passed.

Discussion held on summer street painting. Mayor McDonald suggested residential streets should not be painted this summer and that painting should be focused on main street. Mr. Trupe will provide an updated estimate for paint at next month’s meeting.

Discussion was held on replacing the sidewalk in front of the legion, the steps at the old police station, and the sidewalk at the firehall. Mr. DuBois will check to see if the city will face any ADA obstacles in replacing the police station steps.

Discussion was held on quotes for a skid steer. Decision was tabled until next month’s meeting.

Approval was given to Mr. Trupe to use the city owned cell phone rather than his personal phone for city related business.

**Police, Fire, and Traffic:**  Mr. Jackson stated the Fire Dept. will be holding a raffle at their annual oyster stew feed and will be needing a rental agreement for the Legion.

**Financial & Economic Development Corp:** Nothing.

**Board of Health, City Buildings, and Recreation:** Discussion was held on the bath house grant. Horgan informed the council that an extension is not possible. Due to the approaching deadlines stated in the grant the bath house project will be postponed at this time. Discussion was held on pool funding. The Financial Committee will meet prior to next month’s meeting to suggest movement of funds related to this project.

Discussion was held on an agreement for rental space from Walhalla Farmer’s Grain. Motion by Carpenter to approve all bills presented with the exception of the bill from Walhalla Farmer’s Grain until Mayor McDonald provides clarification. Second by Dumas. Roll call: Carpenter, yes; Horgan, yes; Schill, yes but abstaining from his bill; Jackson, yes; Dumas, yes. Motion passed.

**Old Business:** Discussion was held on the Tetrault Trust lease renewal documents. Mr. DuBois will make the addition of a right of access clause and have it for review at next month’s meeting.

**New Business:** Nothing

**Other Business:** Mayor McDonald suggested to the council that the auditor should receive a raise in pay. Motion by Carpenter to increase the annual salary of the auditor to $52,000.00. Second by Dumas. Roll Call: Carpenter, yes; Horgan, yes; Schill, yes; Kalis, yes; Dumas, yes; Jackson, yes. Motion Passed.

Motion by Carpenter to adjourn. Second by Dumas. Ayes, all. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned 9:15 P.M.

John Rock McDonald\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Michael Cook \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Mayor Auditor

February 3, 2025